



Vol. 5 Issue 1 January 2022

IMPACT UPDATE

Protecting, Preventing, Providing

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Troopers Give Back To Community During Holiday Season

In these uncertain times, one certain this time of year is that members of the Maryland State Police will rally with the community to ensure that those in need, especially children have a joyful winter holiday and Christmas season.

The largest undertaking by troopers last month was the annual "It's Kindertime" Toy Drive. The department collected hundreds of toys at donation boxes placed at all 23 barracks across the state. A caravan of troopers, along with police officers from allied agencies and other first responders, delivered the toys to the Kennedy Krieger Institute, the Ronald McDonald House, the Bea Gaddy Family Center and The Agape Christian

Center.

Along with the toy drive, individual barracks participated in a number of other holiday events, including toy drives for Toys for Tots, "Shop with a Cop" days and food drives. The Berlin, North East, Forestville and Leonardtown barracks were among those that participated in a "Shop with a Cop" event. In these, children were given a set amount of money to purchase gifts for themselves and/or family members. The day often included spending the day shopping with a trooper or another first responder before getting lunch donated by a community restaurant.

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IMPACT UPDATE

DONATE: Making A Difference In Community

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In its “Shop with a Cop” day, the Berlin Barrack partnered with the Worcester County CRICKET Center. Assisting with the event were members of the Worcester County Sheriff’s Office, Ocean City Police Department, Berlin Police Department, Pocomoke Police Department and troopers from the Salisbury Barrack. As part of the event, the Worcester County Board of Education identified 18 elementary school students throughout the county to participate.

Financial donations were received by the CRICKET Center to assemble food baskets for each family. Each of the students were paired with a uniformed trooper or officer from one of the local agencies. The children received a tour of the Berlin Barrack and were sworn in as “auxiliary” police officers for the event.

The students and law enforcement partners then traveled by Maryland State Police bus to the Berlin Walmart. Once at the store, the children were given \$100 to spend. After their shopping spree, participants were bussed back to the barrack and provided lunch courtesy of the West Ocean City Chic-Fil-A. After lunch, volunteers wrapped gifts the students purchased for their family and friends.



Troopers prepare to distribute toys to children following the annual “It’s Kindertime” Toy Drive.

On Dec. 12, the North East Barrack was among 13 law enforcement agencies across Maryland and Delaware who converged at the Singerly Fire House in Elkton, Maryland for the its 10th Annual Shop with a Cop - Cecil County event. Sixty-seven children, representing 37 families, were selected to participate in the event.

After donuts and hot chocolate were served to law enforcement and families, they paraded lights and siren to the Elkton Walmart for a day of shopping. After shopping, the children were escorted back to Singerly Fire House where approximately 200 volunteers and guests greeted the children. The gifts were wrapped while the children met with Santa and had a catered lunch.

The North East Barrack also participated in a Toys for Tots Drive in Cecil County. This year their group managed to practically

fill up a box truck with all of the donations for Toys for Tots. All toys collected at the Barrack will be distributed to children in Cecil County. Last year over 4,300 kids in Cecil County were given toys from the Toys for Tots program.

Volunteers from Garrett County Law Enforcement agencies took to the road Dec. 4 to deliver packages for the 6th annual Police Providing Presents 2021. Once again, due to high numbers of COVID cases in Garrett County, the committee decided to alter the event. Garrett County students were selected through their schools to participate. The Maryland State Police, Garrett County Sheriff’s Office, Oakland City Police, Maryland Natural Resource Police and Maryland Fire Marshal Office personnel partnered together to deliver the packages to the children. The children received their gifts and got to visit with their partners and saw them spreading some cheer.



IMPACT UPDATE

PHOTOS: 'It's Kindertime' Toy Drive



Questions or comments? Email us at msh.media@maryland.gov or call 410-653-4236



IMPACT UPDATE

PHOTOS: Troopers Spreading Holiday Cheer



The Berlin Barrack participated in the Worcester County "Shop With A Cop" event that helped 18 children purchase gifts.



Troopers from the Leonardtown Barrack help a young lady try on a pair of shoes during their Shop with a Cop event.



Troopers from the Cumberland Barrack help a youngster check out at Walmart after going Christmas shopping.



Troopers from the Forestville Barrack assisted in delivering food donations from the Angelic Touch Non-Profit Community Outreach Division of Trinity Resources Non-Profit Corporation of Mitchellville, MD.



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Troopers from the McHenry Barrack participated in Garrett County's Police Providing Presents event on Dec. 4.



IMPACT UPDATE



MSP Helicopter Hoists Five From Susquehanna Flats

(HAVRE DE GRACE, MD) – A Maryland State Police helicopter crew rescued five people stranded on the Susquehanna Flats near here and Perryville, MD on Nov. 26.

Shortly after 7:45 p.m., a Maryland State Police Aviation Command helicopter was dispatched from the Easton Section – Trooper 6, to assist in locating a small fire company rescue boat, whose crew became disoriented and lost after rescuing three waterfowl hunters.

After locating the missing boat, the Maryland State Police launched Trooper 1, a helicopter based at Martin State Airport at about 8:45 p.m. to assist with the extrication of five people stuck on the rescue boat. The fire company boat, located in an area of the silt and mud-laden flats, was inaccessible by other rescue boats.

Crews noted hypothermia was the concerns as temperatures were near

-freezing with winds gusting at to almost 30 miles per hour. The hunters were returning from an outing when their boat encountered problems with the shifting tides and mud. Rescue crews from the Susquehanna Hose Company, the Harford County Department of Emergency Services Special Operations unit and several other agencies, were able to rescue the hunters approximately one hour after the initial 9-1-1 call.

However, the crew on the small rescue boat became lost and stranded in shallow water and mud. The four-person crew from Trooper 6 located the rescue boat with the three hunters and two rescuers aboard shortly before 9:20 p.m. The crew from Trooper 6 was running low on fuel and requested the assistance of Trooper 1 for an aerial (hoist) extraction.

The two pilots flying Trooper 1 maneuvered the AW-139

helicopter into position 100 feet above the hunters and rescuers. Trooper 1's Corporal/Crew Chief lowered a rescue basket to the side of the rescue boat, where a hunter was able to climb in and then hoisted into the aircraft. That same evolution was completed four additional times to rescue the remaining hunters and fire company personnel. All victims were successfully loaded and secured into the aircraft and taken National Guard Armory in Havre de Grace, where a Havre de Grace Ambulance Corps crew evaluated the five individuals for hypothermia.

No injuries were reported during the nearly four-hour operation. A United States Coast Guard helicopter based out of Atlantic City, New Jersey was also dispatched to the scene. However, MSP's helicopter crew rescued all the victims prior to their arrival.



IMPACT UPDATE

Coordinated Effort Tackles Aggressive, Impaired, Distracted Driving In Washington Metro Area

A coordinated law enforcement initiative to remove impaired, distracted and aggressive drivers from the roadway this weekend in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area yielded impressive results last month.

Troopers and officers concentrated their enforcement efforts on behaviors most likely to injure or kill others such as impaired driving, aggressive and distracted driving and speeding.

During this operation, law enforcement representatives from Montgomery and Prince George's counties issued 246 citations, 160 warnings, 36 safety equipment repair orders and eight civil citations. There was also one arrest warrant was served over this period.

Troopers from the Commercial Motor Vehicle Division performed 11 inspections



on commercial vehicles and placed two vehicles out of service for safety and equipment violations. The troopers and officers also removed 21 impaired drivers from the roadways.

Maryland State Police partnered with Maryland Transportation Authority Police, Montgomery County Police, and the Prince George's County Police to conduct this cooperative high visibility patrol initiative. Efforts were focused on I-495 from the Woodrow Wilson Bridge in Prince George's County to the American Legion

Memorial Bridge in Montgomery County and on US Route 50 from Washington D.C to the Anne Arundel County line, and major roadways leading to them. The coordinated effort involved over 60 police and civilian employees working together in the region overnight.

Troopers assigned to barracks from the Washington Metro Troop along with specialized units within the Department worked together with the goal of attempting to reduce traffic fatalities. Patrol troopers worked

alongside troopers from the State Police Impaired Driving Effort (SPIDRE) team, the Criminal Enforcement Division, the Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division, the Chemical Test for Alcohol Unit and the Special Operations Division.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), about 28 people in the United States die every day in drunk-driving crashes - that's one person every 52 minutes. Data has shown that although motorists reduced their vehicular travel significantly in 2020, there has been an increase in fatalities on our roadways.

The Maryland State Police believes educating the public through community engagement and conducting fair and equitable enforcement action is the foundation to reducing fatalities.



IMPACT UPDATE



Pictured left to right: Rockville Barrack Commander Lt. Vince Upole, MADD Officer of the Month Trooper Nicholas Kline, MADD Mid-Atlantic Victim Services Manager Robin Stimson and Maryland State Police Cpl. Steven Turner

Rockville Barrack Trooper Earns MADD National Police Officer Of The Month Award

(ROCKVILLE, MD) — Mothers Against Drunk Driving recently selected a Maryland state trooper as its National Police Officer for the Month.

Trooper Nicholas Kline, who is assigned to the Maryland State Police Rockville Barrack, received the recognition for December 2021. Trooper Kline has maintained a steadfast commitment to removing impaired drivers from Maryland's roads.

In October, Trooper Kline removed 12 individuals from Montgomery County roads, accounting for approximately 35 percent of the total driving under the influence arrests at the Rockville Barrack. Since his transfer to Rockville on Sept. 22, Trooper Kline has recorded 18 impaired driving arrests.

Rockville Barrack Commander Lieutenant Vince Upole said that Trooper Kline's proficiency in making DUI arrests has led him to

arrest an impaired driver on one out of every 12 traffic stops he makes. Trooper Kline recently completed Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement helping him remove and charge drivers who are impaired by controlled dangerous substances.

"Trooper Nicholas Kline is deserving of the MADD Officer of the Month Award due to his commitment and proficiency in DUI detection and apprehension and undoubtedly saving countless lives," Lt. Upole said.



IMPACT UPDATE

MSP, Allied Agencies Target Illegal Street Racing In Washington Metro Area

Maryland State Police, along with Prince George's County Police Department, and several partner agencies, conducted on Dec. 17 a joint operation to address increasing community concerns over illegal street racing and car meet-ups.

The partner agencies included Montgomery County Police, Laurel City Police and the Prince George's County State's Attorney's Office.

During the operation, officers observed illegal street racing and car meet-ups in several areas in



Prince George's County which included Landover, Landover Hills, Beltsville and Upper Marlboro.

The operation yielded the following results:

- 4 arrests
- 2 firearms recovered
- 2 replica firearms recovered
- 123 traffic stops conducted
- 169 traffic citations issued - to include reckless driving
- 64 safety equipment repair orders issued
- 17 vehicles impounded

Of the four individuals arrested, one was arrested for being in possession of a stolen vehicle, two for gun-related charges and one arrest was drug-related.

Prince Frederick Barrack Troopers Honored For DUI Enforcement Efforts



On Dec. 14, the Calvert County Commissioners on behalf of the Calvert Alliance Against Substance Abuse, Inc., presented awards to the top four Prince Frederick Barrack Troopers in DUI enforcement for 2021. Those troopers, from left, were Trooper White, TFC Kelly, Trooper Moorman and TFC Smith. These four troopers have a combined total of 66 arrests for impaired driving in 2021. Please join us in congratulating these troopers as well as the Calvert County Sheriff's Deputies who all received awards for their dedication and commitment in keeping Calvert County roads safer for our community!



IMPACT UPDATE

Maryland State Police Warns Motorists Of Dangers Of Leaving Vehicles Running Unattended

(PIKESVILLE, MD) – As the temperature begins to decrease, the chances of your vehicle being stolen increases if you do not take the proper precautions as a recent case Harford County highlights.

Shortly before 3:30 a.m. on Nov. 27, a trooper from the Maryland State Police Bel Air Barrack attempted to conduct a traffic stop on westbound Route 22 at Sablewood Road in Bel Air, Maryland for a 2014 Hyundai Elantra that had been reported stolen in Pennsylvania. According to a preliminary investigation, after the trooper activated his emergency lights, he saw all four occupants of the Hyundai bail out of the vehicle before they fled southbound on Redfield Road.

Shortly thereafter, the Bel Air Barrack received a call of another stolen vehicle on the 900 block of Pentwood Court in Bel Air, Maryland. This occurred just a few blocks away from the bailout on Sablewood Road. In the second case, the victim told investigators that he had walked outside to start up his 1997 silver Honda Civic to allow it to warm up that morning. The victim said that when he returned to his vehicle it was gone from its location. According to the Maryland Vehicle Theft Prevention Council, a car is stolen every 49 minutes in Maryland and every 39 seconds in

Auto theft
PREVENTION TIPS

Auto theft prevention is common sense, but not common practice.

FOLLOW THESE SIMPLE TIPS to protect your vehicle and spare yourself the hassle and expense of having your car stolen.

STEP one : **LOCK YOUR CAR, TAKE YOUR KEYS, EVERY TIME.**

Develop good habits – consciously make the decision to double check that you have your keys as you walk away from the vehicle. No place is safe from theft, even your own driveway.

STEP TWO : **DO NOT LEAVE YOUR CAR UNLOCKED, RUNNING AND UNATTENDED.**

Whether you're just running out to grab a cup of coffee or warming the car up before leaving for work, it only takes a thief seconds to steal your car. It's illegal to leave a car running and unattended on a public road.

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STEP THREE : **DON'T LEAVE VALUABLES IN YOUR CAR.** Leaving cell phones, mail, garage door openers, wallets, computers, or other valuables in the car attracts thieves. Leaving mail and sensitive information in your car also leaves you vulnerable to identity theft. Leaving your garage door opener can also invite burglary to your home.

the United States. Overall, 10,683 vehicles were stolen in Maryland in 2020, down from 11,255 in 2019. Of those, 50 percent of vehicles stolen in Maryland had keys inside the vehicle and 60 percent of the vehicles stolen were left unlocked.

Maryland State Police also want to remind motorists that leaving your vehicle running unattended not only increases the chances of it getting stolen, it is also illegal. According to state law, police can issue a ticket with a \$70 fine and one point against your driving record for such a violation. Also, if the vehicle slips out of gear and causes an accident, you could be issued a ticket with a \$110 fine and three points against

your driving record.

Simply taking a few steps greatly reduce the chances of a motorist having their vehicle stolen. These steps include:

- Close and lock all windows and doors when you park.
- Park in well-lit areas.
- Do not leave the area while your vehicle is running.
- Do not leave your keys/key fobs in your vehicle.
- Always stow away your valuables.

Efforts by the Vehicle Theft Prevention Council have led to a more than 72 percent reduction of vehicle thefts in Maryland over the past 27 years.